

Graduate Council Meeting Minutes

12:00 pm, Wednesday, October 6, 2021

Zoom

Meeting called to order at 12:02 pm

1. Roll Call (Completed via Zoom Chat and Zoom Participant features by Sarah Stanley)

- Present*: See Attached Roll Call List
- Invited Guests: C. Tsatsoulis, S. Fayek
- Other Guests/Attendees: K. Wagner, E. Reven, S. Matson, J. Sinnott, M. Bilkey

*CLARIFYING question from Computer Science – different programs/would prefer to have two different persons (MS Thesis versus MS Non-Thesis). To be discussed Off-line.

2. Approval of Minutes from September 01, 2021 Meeting

- S. Stanley moved to approve; D. Fischer seconded. Unanimous approval by raising of hands via Zoom.

3. Appointment of 2021-22 Membership Committee (Must be comprised of Graduate Council members; At least one member from each of the following: engineering, science, arts/humanities/social sciences, business related)

- Volunteers: A. Adekpedjou (science); C. Kueny (arts/humanities/social sciences); S. Corns (engineering)
- S. Stanley (business) volunteered to complete the committee

4. Appointment of Ad Hoc Committee to Discuss the Process to Remove an Advisor or Committee Member from a Thesis/Dissertation Committee (Determined in the April 2021 Graduate Council meeting)

- Volunteers: S. Sedigh Sarvestani (engineering), M. Thimgan (science); Akim Adekpedjou (science); S. Fayek (non-voting student representative)
- Additional volunteers requested – Contact M. Insall or K. Wagner

5. Submit Nominations/Self-Nominations for 2021-22 End of Year Awards Committee to Kathy Wagner (wagnerkc@mst.edu) by October 13, 2021. Vote will occur at the November Graduate Council Meeting.

- Volunteers: G. Olbricht (faculty); V.P. Reddy (faculty); M. Nath (faculty); B. Bai (faculty)
- Member still needed: one staff member working with a graduate program/office – Contact M. Insall or K. Wagner

6. Revise Graduate Catalog – Earning a Second/Subsequent Master's Degree

- Brief presentation by C. Tsatsoulis, “this is not a major policy change; rather this is a re-writing/clarification of existing language and bringing our language in alignment with our current approach”.
- Proposed adjustment of language to clarify, “A student who has earned a master's degree from Missouri S&T is not eligible to receive a second master's degree in the same degree program”.

- This does not preclude a student from pursuing a duplicate degree at Missouri S&T, who previously earned the same degree from another university (i.e., master's degree from overseas institution, followed by masters's degree from Missouri S&T).
 - S. Sedigh Sarvestani moved to approve; A. Adekpedjou seconded. Unanimous approval by raising of hands via Zoom.
7. Modify Grad Track Pathway to allow approved GTP courses to also be applied toward graduate certificate in addition to master's degree
- Brief presentation by C. Tsatsoulis, "this was presented to the graduate office for consideration, and I am bringing it forward for discussion. I have no position on this issue".
 - As many hours as allowed to be shared between bachelor's and master's, would then also be allowed towards a graduate certificate, which will be awarded after completing the master's degree.
 - To clarify, the graduate certificate will be awarded concurrent with the completion of the master's degree to avoid the loss of students who opt for the graduate certificate but do not complete the master's degree.
 - Specific wording was sent as an appendix to the agenda.
 - To clarify, the courses from the bachelor's will be applied to both the graduate certificate and the master's degree.
 - Graduate office will re-write using the input from this conversation, and an updated motion will be presented in November 2021.
8. Modify Section III.A. of the Graduate Faculty Rules & Regulations to reflect change in administrative title
- Brief presentation by M. Insall, "when we have administrative title changes, we need to approve concomitant changes in our own rules and regulations". The primary question is if we continue to include both the Vice Chancellor for Research as well as the Vice Provost for Graduate Education, or if we modify to include only Vice Provost for Graduate Education.
 - Motion is to modify to include ONLY Vice Provost for Graduate Education.
 - C. Kueny moved to approve; B. Bai seconded. Unanimous approval by raising of hands via Zoom.
 - Motion is to ADD Vice Chancellor for Research to membership of the graduate faculty.
 - S. Stanley moved to approve; C. Kueny seconded. Unanimous approval by raising of hands via Zoom.
9. Modify Section III.E.1. of the Graduate Faculty Rules and Regulations to Allow Associate Members to Retain Membership if Granted Emeritus Status
- Brief presentation by M. Insall, "when associate members are granted emeritus status, the question is should they retain only associate membership rights or should they be 'elevated' to full membership as part of emeritus status?"
 - Motion is to retain existing membership rights.

- S. Stanley moved to approve; C. Kueny seconded. Unanimous approval by raising of hands via Zoom.

10. The Council of Graduate Schools (CGS) Resolution Regarding Graduate Scholars, Fellows, Trainees, and Assistants

- Brief presentation by C. Tsatsoulis, “widely adopted resolution says, ‘students under no obligation to respond to accept admission and financial aid by April 15’.
- To clarify, does this “encourage” students to be unresponsive – or to change their response of acceptance – before and/or after April 15.
- NO motion made; issue died for lack of motion/support.

11. Potential Need for Standing Liaison Committee Between Graduate Faculty and Faculty Senate

- Brief presentation by M. Insall, “I am in favor of creating a standing committee to serve as a liaison between graduate faculty and faculty senate”.
- C. Kueny moved to discuss; A. Alajo seconded.
- To clarify, what is the need that is driving the notion to create a standing committee?
- To clarify, there was a prior effort to re-write the campus CRR faculty handbook to make the Graduate Faculty a Standing Committee of the Faculty Senate. This was unanimously opposed by the Graduate Council and the Graduate Faculty. This opposition was presented in an open faculty forum. The President of the Faculty Senate subsequently requested “increased liaison activity” between Faculty Senate and the Graduate Faculty and Graduate Council.
- To clarify, there is no specific mechanism to provide two-way communication between Graduate Faculty and Faculty Senate. Therefore, there is a need to improve two-way communication to ensure coordination of policies, etc.
- Discussion, would there be value in creating a Faculty Senator from the Graduate Faculty? Should there be a reciprocal seat; should there be a member of Faculty Senate who is also a member of Graduate Faculty?
- Based upon lively discussion and time of the meeting, there was a motion by A. Alajo to table; M. Thimgan seconded. Unanimous approval to TABLE by raising of hands via Zoom.

Meeting adjourned at 1:13 pm

Program/Department	Name	Present	Designee Present
Aerospace Engineering	Serhat Hosder	x	
Biological Sciences	Matt Thimgan	x	
Applied Mathematics	Gayla Olbricht	x	
Arts, Language, & Philosophy*			
Business Administration (MBA)	Sarah Stanley	x	
Ceramic Engineering	Aditya Kumar	x	
Chemical Engineering	Jee-Ching Wang		
Chemistry	Manashi Nath		
Civil Engineering	Cesar Mendoza	x	
Computer Engineering	Sahra Sedighsarvestani	x	
Computer Science	Sanjay Madria	x	
Economics*	Yishu Zhou	x	
Electrical Engineering	Chang-Soo Kim	x	
Engineering Management	Steven Corns	*	Cihan Dagli
Environmental Engineering	Cesar Mendoza	x	
Explosives Engineering	Kyle Perry	*	Lana Alagha
Geological Engineering	Ryan Smith	x	
Geology and Geophysics	Wan Yang		
Geotechnics	Jeffrey Cawfield		
History and Political Science*	Michael Meagher		
Industrial-Organizational Psychology	Clair Kueny	x	
Information Science & Technology	Cecil Chua	x	
Manufacturing Engineering	Frank Liou		
Materials Science & Engineering	Aditya Kumar	x	
Mathematics	Akim Adekpedjou	x	
Mechanical Engineering	Xiaodong Yang	x	
Metallurgical Engineering	Aditya Kumar	x	
Mining Engineering	Lana Alagha	x	
Nuclear Engineering	Ayodeji Alajo	x	
Petroleum Engineering	Baojun Bai	x	
Physics	Daniel Fischer	x	
Systems Engineering	Cihan Dagli	x	
Technical Communication	Edward Malone	x	

*Department offering 5000 level courses but no graduate program